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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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An electronic identification tag interrogation method is provided in which a portal transmits an interrogation signal which is received by an electronic identification tag within its field of range. The interrogation signal includes an address which requests a response from every tag having an address greater than or equal to the address of the signal. If more than one reply is received by the portal, the interrogation address is bisected and the interrogation signal is retransmitted. The interrogation address is successively bisected until a single response is isolated. When a single response is isolated, communication is directed between the portal and the identification tag and the interrogation system is reset to isolate and identify any remaining tags.

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